

Message Text

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R 050233Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 183324

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA ETRD ETEL CH US

SUBJECT: EA/PRCM WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. PRC INTEREST IN INTELSAT; SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS
(SECRET)

PEKING IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING JOINING INTELSAT, WHICH
LAST YEAR FORCED OUT THE ROC (THERE WAS A FACE-SAVING
RESIGNATION) TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE PRC. A PRCLO OFFICIAL
HAS TALKED WITH THE INTELSAT LEGAL ADVISER ABOUT THE
PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF JOINING. BUT THE CHINESE HAVE
INDICATED CONCERN ABOUT TWO OF THESE ASPECTS: ROC
SIGNATURES ON THE INTELSAT INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

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(WHICH THE PRC WILL NOT HAVE TO SIGN), AND THE PRESENCE OF
A DEPARTMENT PERSON AT THE MEMBERSHIP CEREMONY (WE ARE THE
OFFICIAL DEPOSITARY OF THE INTELSAT AGREEMENTS). MEAN-
WHILE, USLO HAS NOTED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL US
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FIRMS ARE IN OR ARE HEADED FOR PEKING.
USLO SUGGESTS THE CHINESE MAY SOON WANT TO BUY A DOMESTIC
SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FROM THE US, OR FROM

ELSEWHERE.

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2. AP VISIT TO PEKING (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

ANSWERING A QUESTION YOU RAISED ABOUT AN ITEM IN LAST WEEK'S REPORT, KAY GRAHAM IS GOING TO CHINA FOR TWO WEEKS STARTING AUGUST 29 AS PART OF A 12-PERSON AP GROUP LED BY KEITH FULLER. ALSO INCLUDED IN THE GROUP ARE ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER OF THE "NEW YORK TIMES," STANTON COOK OF THE "CHICAGO TRIBUNE," AND ROBERT L. TAYLOR OF THE "PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN." NCNA IS THE HOST. JIM LILLEY AND MIKE OKSENBERG HAVE BRIEFED THE GROUP.

3. MELVIN BELLI'S ATTEMPTS TO VISIT TIBET
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

TRIAL LAWYER MELVIN.BELLI IS CURRENTLY IN WASHINGTON AND ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A VISA TO VISIT THE PRC, INCLUDING TIBET. WE WERE FIRST CONTACTED BY SENATOR CRANSTON'S OFFICE, WHICH HAD RECEIVED A RATHER DEMANDING LETTER FROM BELLI SEEKING THE SENATOR'S INTERVENTION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRCLC ON HIS BEHALF. LATER, IN A CALL TO EA/PRCM BELLI COMPLAINED THAT HE HAD VISITED PRCLC BUT RECEIVED NO SATISFACTION FROM THE CHINESE. WE PROVIDED HIM STANDARD INFORMATION ON OBTAINING PRC VISAS AND HE

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APPEARED SOMEWHAT MOLLIFIED BY THE END OF THE CONVERSATION. BELLI, HOWEVER, COULD WELL SEEK FURTHER HIGH-LEVEL INTERCESSION ON HIS BEHALF. HE INDICATED THAT ONE ASPECT OF HIS PLANNED VISIT WOULD BE TO WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR "HOLIDAY."

4. NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR US-CHINA TRADE (NCUSCT) CHAIRMAN, CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS, CAME BY AUGUST 3 TO INTRODUCE THE NEW NCUSCT VICE-PRESIDENT, STANLEY YOUNG, WHO UNTIL RECENTLY HAS BEEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE CCPIT VISIT. I TOLD CHRIS THAT THE LEVEL AT WHICH THE WHITE HOUSE WILL RECEIVE THE GROUP WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE DECIDED UNTIL LATE AUGUST AT THE EARLIEST.

CHRISTOPHER

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